ATLAS
BATTLEFRONT
ALL NEW...
NOV.
BATTLE FRONT
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
10¢
NO. 37
WHEN YOU HEAR: "POSITION HOPELESS!" WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?
SY SHORES

SKINNY

MEN ARE OFTEN ASHAMED TO STRIP FOR SPORTS OR FOR A SWIM!

GIRLS ARE NOT ALLURING AND DON'T HAVE EYE-CATCHING CURVES!

CHILDREN WHO WON'T EAT AND ARE UNDERWEIGHT, OFTEN CALLED SKINNY!

Now at last More-Wate plan that puts firm, attractive pounds and inches on your body, chest, arms and legs.

GAIN MORE WEIGHT IN 10 DAYS OR YOUR MONEY BACK!

Amazing New Way developed by modern medical science to put on weight on lean bodies. **Guaranteed** to give you up to an **extra pound a day!** Or **your money back!** Why should you dread going to parties and socials, simply because you look scrawny and spindly? Why ever feel self-conscious about your body again? If you're **underweight*** . . . or just a little on the thin side, due to faulty appetite, or bad dietary habits, you can **put on up to a pound a day** of **attractive weight** without exercise . . . dangerous drugs . . . or special diet . . . and more quickly, more easily than you ever dreamed possible . . . with MORE-WATE. MORE-WATE contains no dangerous drugs . . . you **eat it like candy!** Yet . . . if you were to have this same prescription compounded to your order, it would cost you many times more. However, through this introductory offer, you can obtain **4-way** MORE-WATE tablets . . . a full 10 days' supply . . . for just $1.00 or a 30 day supply for only $2.98, plus a 10 day supply free, with an absolute money-back guarantee! Yes, try MORE-WATE for TEN DAYS . . . and if not entirely delighted with weight gained, return the unused supply for full refund! You've nothing to lose . . . and **weight to gain!** Act now! Stop being the guy or the gal that everyone calls "skinny." Stop being the guy or the gal who dreads summer and going to parties and socials because it means everyone will enjoy themselves and you won't. Don't be a wallflower, because you have a figure like a broomstick! **Gain more weight!**

10-DAY SUPPLY ONLY $1.

The 4-way MORE-WATE tablets are **unconditionally guaranteed** to put on weight . . . or it doesn't cost you a penny! MORE-WATE is a **delicious,** full strength, 4-way tablet . . . that combines not just one . . . or two . . . but 4 of the most amazing aids for **gaining weight** known to medical science. MORE-WATE is not a liquid . . . not a powder. It's delicious, **pleasant-tasting tablet!** It contains vitamin B-12 . . . the **amazing red vitamin doctors** give many **underweight patients in hospitals** . . . It contains Iron that helps correct iron deficiency, anemia and builds rich, red blood. It contains appetite-building vitamin B-1 . . . and it contains nutritious easily assimilated malt, the amazing ingredient that helps your body turn much of the food you eat into **well rounded flesh** instead of being wasted. **That's the secret of putting on weight.** Now you can help your food to **add new pounds to your arms, chest, hips, thighs,** and **legs.** Now you don't have to be skinny . . . or afraid to be seen socially and be ashamed of your figure! **You must achieve the figure you want . . . or don't pay anything.** Act now!

Not one child yet has failed to go for and ask for more MORE-WATE tablets! Stop worrying about children not eating enough, give them MORE-WATE tablets—it stimulates their appetite . . . they eat it like candy!

MAIL THIS NO RISK TRIAL COUPON NOW!

SENSATIONAL 10-DAY TEST!

Mail the coupon now! Test the amazing MORE-WATE tablet plan for 10 days at our expense. If after 10 days your friends, your mirror and your scale do not tell you that you have gained weight and look better you pay nothing!

MORE-WATE CO., Dept. M95
318 Market Street, Newark, N. J.

Just mail us your name and address, and $1.00 cash, check or money order. You will receive a 10 day supply of MORE-WATE tablets and plan, postage prepaid.

☐ Send me 30 day supply plus an extra 10 day supply (that's a 40 day supply) for $2.98. I understand that if I am not delighted with MORE-WATE tablets and plan, I can return the 30 day supply in 10 days for full purchase price refund, and keep the 10 day supply without charge.

NAME _____

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SENT ON APPROVAL—MAKE AMAZING 10-DAY TEST

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MUNG-TOY STRIKES!

THIS IS AUGUST, 1952, IN KOREA! A RUGGED BATTLE HAS JUST BEEN FOUGHT FOR AN IMPORTANT POSITION! CAPTAIN SCOTT AND HIS ***ABLE COMPANY*** MUD-MASHERS HAVE DEFEATED MAJOR MUNG-TOY, THE PRIDE OF THE COMMUNIST ARMY! MAJOR MUNG-TOY IS STILL ALIVE, AND FURIOUS OVER LOSS OF FACE FOR THE WORST DEFEAT OF HIS ARMY CAREER!

I AM GOING TO SET YOU FREE, AMERICAN!
BUT BEFORE YOU START BACK FOR YOUR COMPANY'S POSITION, LOOK AT THE FACE OF MY CLOCK! OBSERVE THE HOUR!
HAVE YOU DONE SO?
YEAH!
THEN GO...AND INFORM YOUR CAPTAIN THAT HE HAS EXACTLY SIXTY MINUTES TO WITHDRAW FROM THE POSITION HE HAS WON FROM ME! IF NOT, HE AND HIS ENTIRE COMPANY WILL BE DESTROYED, BECAUSE BEFORE WE ABANDONED IT, I HAD IT WIRED WITH THOUSANDS OF POUNDS OF EXPLOSIVES...TO BLOW UP IN SIXTY MINUTES!

SGT. DAVIS IS ESCORTED BY TWO REDS THROUGH COMMIE TERRITORY TOWARD NO MAN'S LAND..
ARE THEY ON THE LEVEL? ARE THEY GONNA LET ME GO?
WE STOP HERE, YONKEE! YOU GO!
THE SERGEANT MOVES AWAY SLOWLY! HE KEEPS GLANCING BACK AT THE GRINNING GUARDS AND THEIR READY RIFLES...
THEN HE BREAKS INTO A RUN...
SGT. DAVIS KEEPS RUNNING, THEN...
HEY! MY OWN OUTFIT IS FIRIN' AT ME!
HOLD YOUR FIRE, GUYS! I'M A G.I.! I'M SERGEANT DANNY DAVIS... ABLE COMPANY!
WE CAN HEAR YOU, BUT WE CAN'T SEE YOU...SO STAY PUT! IF YOU'RE FROM THIS OUTFIT, FLIP US THE PASSWORD FOR TONIGHT!
I DON'T KNOW IT! I'VE BEEN A RED PRISONER!
THERE'S SILENCE! BUT SGT. DAVIS KNOWS THEY DON'T BELIEVE HIM, BECAUSE HE HEARS FRESH CLIPS BEING SHOVED INTO THEIR GARANDS..
I'VE GOT TO MAKE THEM BELIEVE ME!
THREE DAYS AGO I PLAYED CARDS WITH KNOBBY, BOSCO AN' PEANUTS! I LOST SEVEN BUCKS TO KNOBBY, AN' A FIN TO BOSCO AN' PEANUTS!
YEAH! THAT'S RIGHT, SARGE... DAVIS DOES OWE ME A FIVE SPOT! NO RED COULD KNOW THAT! IT'S DAVIS ALL RIGHT!
2

THE SARGE REPORTS TO HIS C.O., AND AFTER HOT COFFEE AND A CIGARETTE, THE CAPTAIN ASKS FOR THE WHOLE STORY...
OKAY, CAPTAIN SCOTT, I'LL START FROM THE TIME WE JUMPED OFF THE BIG ATTACK AGAINST MAJOR MUNG-TOY'S OUTFIT AN' THIS POSITION!
THAT WAS TWO NIGHTS AGO... GO AHEAD, SERGEANT!
"AS SOON AS YOU GAVE THE ZERO HOUR SIGNAL FOR THE ATTACK TO BEGIN, CAP'N, ME AN' MY SQUAD HIT THE REDS WITH GARAND FIRE RIGHT IN THE SPOT YOU ASSIGNED US...
AN' LIKE THE CAP'N SAID, SARGE... THIS SPOT IS RED-HOT!
YEAH! THEY'RE GUARDIN' IT WITH THEIR LIVES!
THE REST OF OUR OUTFIT WILL HAVE A ROUGH TIME, UNTIL WE CAN BLOW THE AMMO DUMP THESE REDS ARE GUARDIN'! BUT THERE ARE TOO MANY OF 'EM FOR US TO MAKE A QUICKIE JOB OF THIS!
YOU AN' THE REST OF THE SQUAD KEEP THE COMMIES BUSY, CORPORAL! I'VE GOT AN' IDEA THAT MIGHT GET THIS DETAIL OVER IN HUBBA-HUBBA TIME!
OKAY, SARGE... GET THE BRAIN STORM WORKIN'!
"SO WHILE THE CORPORAL AN' THE REST OF THE GUYS OCCUPIED THE REDS WITH GARAND FIRE, I CLIMBED A HIGH TREE..."
I CAN SEE THE RED AMMO DUMP FROM HERE! WITH A HEFTY HEAVE, I OUGHTTA BE ABLE TO PUT ALL MY IRON EGGS INTO THAT BASKET!
OBSERVE, COMRADE MAJOR! YONKEE IN TREE TOP!
USE YOUR GIMOK QUICKLY... BEFORE HE THROWS THAT GRENADE!
*CHINESE RIFLE!
8

"BUT A G.I. 'GUARDIAN ANGEL' WITH CORPORAL STRIPES WAS WATCHING OVER ME..."

GOT HIM!

"I TOSSED THREE GRENADES BY THE NUMBERS..."

"BUT I ONLY HEARD THE FIRST ONE POP! THE OTHERS WERE LOST IN THE BOOMING FIREWORKS IN THE RED AMMO DUMP SET OFF BY MY NUMBER ONE GRENADE..."

"THE REDS HAD THEIR TROUBLES, BUT MINE WERE JUST BEGINNING! MAJOR MUNG-TOY TOOK PERSONAL CHARGE OF A RED PLATOON AN' BANZAIED AGAINST THE CORPORAL AN' THE SQUAD I LEFT WITH HIM..."

THEY'RE TOO MANY OF 'EM FOR US! THEY'RE SHOVIN' US BACK...AN' THE SARGE IS STILL UP IN THAT TREE!

IT IS DONE, COMRADE MAJOR! OUR PLATOON IS HOLDING BACK THE AMERICAN SQUAD!

THE YONKEE WHO BLEW UP OUR AMMUNITION DUMP IS UP IN THIS TREE! CHOP IT DOWN AT ONCE!

"THE TREE CAME DOWN AN' I CAME WITH IT, RIGHT INTO THE WAITING GIMOS OF THE REDS..."

THEN YOU AN' THE COMPANY SLAMMED THE REDS, CAP'N, AN' MAJOR MUNG-TOY ORDERED A RETREAT BECAUSE OF LACK OF AMMO!

BUT HE SENT YOU WITH THAT MESSAGE... TO MOVE THE OUTFIT OUT OF HERE!

IS MAJOR MUNG-TOY ***BLUFFING***? OR DOES HE ***REALLY*** HAVE THIS AREA RIGGED TO BLOW UP IN SIXTY MINUTES?

SILENCE SQUATS OVER **ABLE COMPANY**...

FIFTEEN MINUTES OF WONDERING PASS! **ABLE COMPANY** WATCHES ITS CAPTAIN, AND WAITS FOR THE RIGHT ANSWER!

IF WE **GO**, THE REDS GET THIS SPOT BACK WITHOUT A FIGHT... AN' THEY MAY BE BLUFFING! AND IF THEY'RE **NOT** BLUFFING, AND WE STAY, THEN WE **ALSO LOSE!**

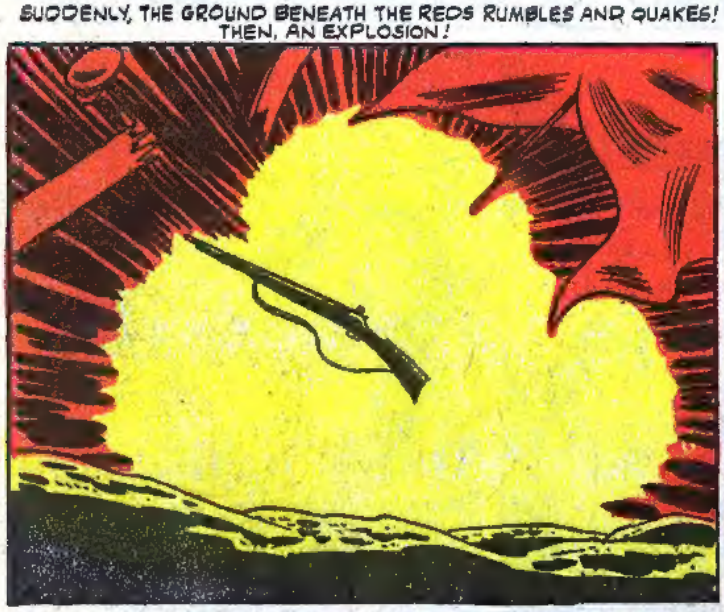
LIEUTENANT... YOU'RE IN CHARGE OF THE COMPANY NOW! IF SERGEANT DAVIS AND I AREN'T BACK IN 20 MINUTES, DO WHAT **YOU** YOU THINK IS **BEST** FOR THE COMPANY!
YES, SIR!

CAPTAIN SCOTT AND SERGEANT DAVIS WALK OFF INTO THE NIGHT TOWARD COMMIE-LAND, AND **ABLE COMPANY** WATCHES...

MINUTES TICK AWAY, AND **ABLE COMPANY** WAITS...

FINALLY...

THE AMERICANS ARE RETREATING FROM THE POSITION! YOUR THREAT IS SUCCESSFUL!
AND IT IS YET FIFTEEN MINUTES BEFORE THE SIXTY MINUTES ARE UP! SO WE HAVE TIME TO MOVE IN AND DISCONNECT THE DYNAMITE TRAP AND REOCCUPY THE POSITION!



AS SOON AS THE RUMBLING DIES, CAPTAIN SCOTT AND HIS ABLE COMPANY INFANTRYMEN MOVE IN SWIFTLY ON THE DAZED MAJOR AND HIS ARMY!
THERE'S NO FIGHT LEFT IN THEM, MEN! JUST ROUND THEM UP!

BUT EVEN NOW IT IS NOT TIME FOR THE DYNAMITE TO GO OFF! IT IS ONLY FIVE MINUTES TO FIVE ON MY CLOCK!
BUT ON MY WRIST WATCH IT'S FIVE MINUTES AFTER FIVE!

THE WRONG TIME ON YOUR CLOCK IS BECAUSE OF SERGEANT DAVIS AND ME! WE SNEAKED INTO YOUR TENT.... AND SET YOUR CLOCK BACK TEN MINUTES!
THE END
6

ATLAS FOR THE BEST IN WAR TALES LOOK FOR THE ATLAS SEAL ON THE COVER! ATLAS

PIMPLES

dry up in 3 days

OR YOUR MONEY BACK!

At last science has discovered a fast, harmless way to clear your skin of those horrible pimples, blackheads and acne spots. This is an entirely new, greaseless cream that contains powerful A and D vitamins. It works fast by drying out the superfluous skin oils pimples feed on...at the same time counteracts by antiseptic action, the growth of bacteria that cause and spread ugly skin blemishes.

IMPROVE YOUR APPEARANCE WITH FIRST APPLICATION

You look better the minute you apply wonder-working CLEAR-X, because its amazing skin color hides the blemishes while its medicinal action gets to work clearing them up fast. You don't risk a penny. Get CLEAR-X by sending in the coupon now, use it for 3 days, and if your skin troubles are not definitely improved, you pay nothing.

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Send me at once the marvelous new CLEAR-X formulation as per your money-back guarantee.

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☐ Send C.O.D., I'll pay postman $2.98 plus C.O.D. charges.

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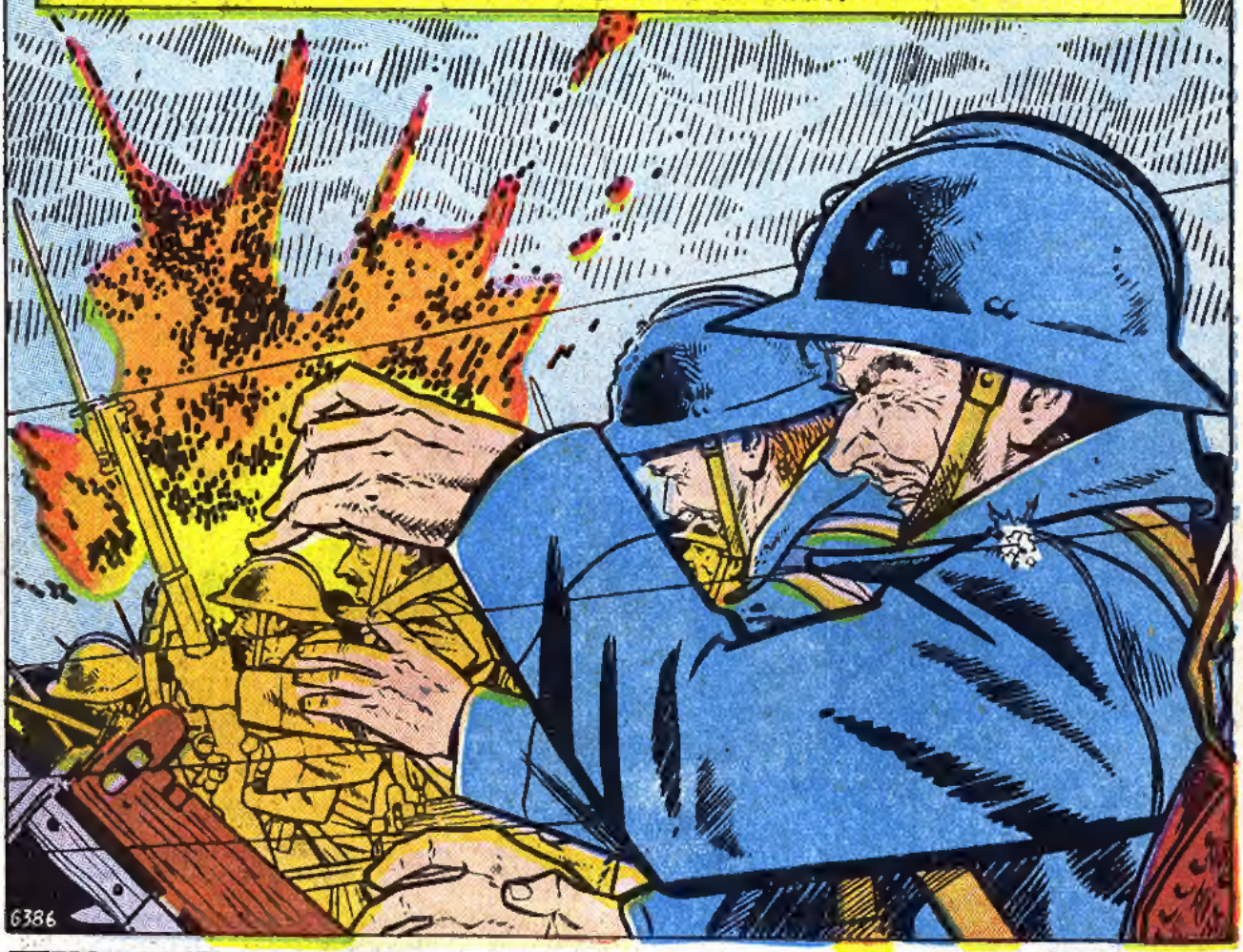
☐ I enclose $6. Rush triple size. (I save $3).

Foreign and APO's—No COD's

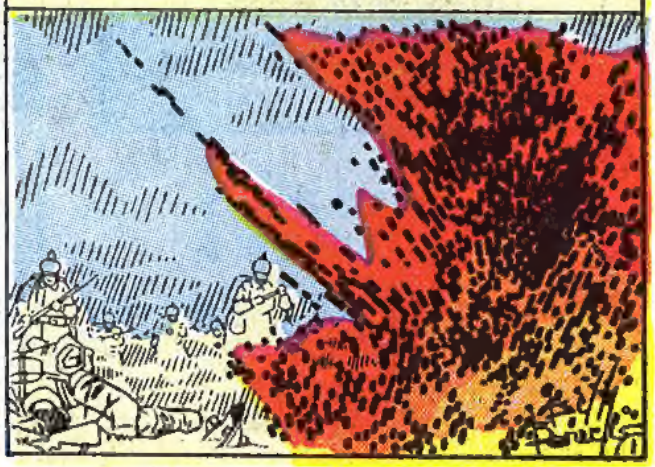
POSITION HOPELESS!

IN OCTOBER, 1914, THE GERMAN PEOPLE WERE TOLD BY THEIR KAISER THAT GERMANY HAD WON THE WAR! FRANCE WAS DEFEATED! HIS ANNOUNCEMENT WAS WELL-FOUNDED, FOR HIS ARMIES HAD DUG IN AND HELD A HUGE TERRITORY IN FRANCE, INCLUDING THE MINING AREA WITH THE RICHEST COAL AND IRON DEPOSITS, WITHOUT WHICH FRANCE COULD NOT SUPPLY HER ARMIES WITH THE TOOLS OF WAR!



AGAIN AND AGAIN, FRANCE'S GALLANT MEN THREW THEMSELVES AGAINST THE STRONGLY FORTIFIED TRENCHES OF THE BOCHE...BUT ALWAYS THEY WERE REPULSED!

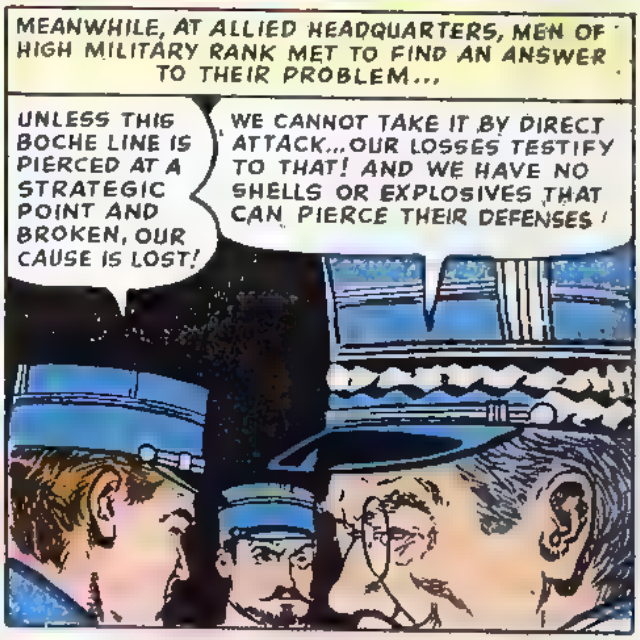
WHEN THE FRENCH ATTACKS HAD BEEN LAUNCHED AGAINST THE GERMAN LINES, THE BOCHE WOULD CHARGE OUT IN FORCE, COVERED BY THEIR HEAVY GUNS, AND STOP THE FRENCH ATTACKING FORCE...



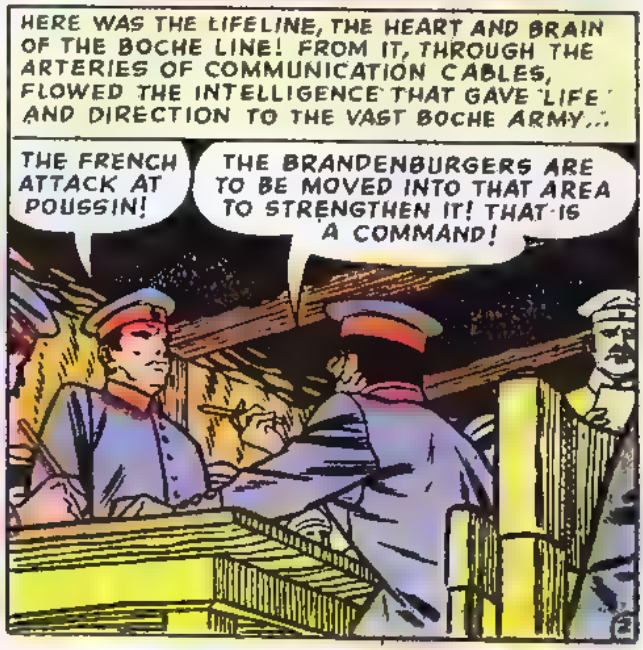
AT GERMAN HEADQUARTERS THE BOCHE HIGH COMMAND WAS JUBILANT!
FRANCE GROWS WEAKER EVERY HOUR!
WITHOUT THE IRON AND COAL WHICH WE NOW HOLD, SHE CAN NOT MAKE ARMS AND AMMUNITION FOR HER ARMIES!

OUR TROOPS ARE RESTED! WHEN WE ARE READY, WE WILL EMERGE IN A GREAT ALL-OUT OFFENSIVE THAT WILL SMASH THE ALLIES FOR TOTAL VICTORY!
...UNLESS THEY SUE FOR PEACE, AN ANNOUNCEMENT WHICH COULD COME AT ANY TIME NOW!

TO THE KAISER!
DEUTSCHLAND UEBER ALLES!


MEANWHILE, AT ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, MEN OF HIGH MILITARY RANK MET TO FIND AN ANSWER TO THEIR PROBLEM...
UNLESS THIS BOCHE LINE IS PIERCED AT A STRATEGIC POINT AND BROKEN, OUR CAUSE IS LOST!
WE CANNOT TAKE IT BY DIRECT ATTACK...OUR LOSSES TESTIFY TO THAT! AND WE HAVE NO SHELLS OR EXPLOSIVES THAT CAN PIERCE THEIR DEFENSES!

THE GREATEST CONCENTRATION OF HUNS WAS IN THE MINING DISTRICT OF LA FORENTS... THERE WAS THE CENTER OF COMMUNICATIONS, WHERE COMMANDS WERE ISSUED TO ALL THAT VAST LINE...


HERE WAS THE LIFELINE, THE HEART AND BRAIN OF THE BOCHE LINE! FROM IT, THROUGH THE ARTERIES OF COMMUNICATION CABLES, FLOWED THE INTELLIGENCE THAT GAVE LIFE AND DIRECTION TO THE VAST BOCHE ARMY...
THE FRENCH ATTACK AT POUSSIN!
THE BRANDENBURGERS ARE TO BE MOVED INTO THAT AREA TO STRENGTHEN IT! THAT IS A COMMAND!

COMMUNICATIONS CAME TOO, TO THE PEOPLE OF LA FORENTS, HUDDLED IN WHAT SHELTER THEY COULD FIND, AWAY FROM THE GUNS...

ANOTHER PAMPHLET, PAPA!

EH? GIVE IT TO MARIE! READ IT, CHILD!

WHAT DOES IT SAY, MARIE?

IT IS NOT GOOD, PAPA! IT IS AS USUAL... THE BOCHE LINE CANNOT BE PIERCED!

PAPA LATOUCHE HAD BEEN BLINDED BY A BLAST IN THE MINES, WHERE HE HAD WORKED SINCE CHILDHOOD, FOR ALL THE MEN OF LA FORENTS WERE MINERS! THE MINES WERE THEIR LIVING AND THEIR WAY OF LIFE...

IT SAYS THAT THE HEART OF THIS BOCHE LINE IS RIGHT HERE AT LA FORENTS... AND THAT IF THE BOCHE LINE IS *NOT* PIERCED SOON, IT WILL MEAN DEFEAT FOR FRANCE!

THEY TAKE THE VERY MINES FROM US! IT IS AN ILL DAY FOR LA BELLE FRANCE!

THE OLD MAN SAT ON THE STAIR, SHAKING HIS HEAD... HE WAS SAD THAT HE COULD NOT JOIN HIS OLDER SONS AND HIS COUNTRYMEN DEFENDING THE LAND HE LOVED...

WHY MUST I BE HELPLESS LIKE THIS, WHILE MY BELOVED COUNTRY FIGHTS FOR HER LIFE?

PAPA, YOU MUST NOT THINK THIS WAY! YOU SIT ALL DAY AND BROOD! YOU HAVE GIVEN YOUR SONS TO FIGHT FOR FRANCE!

WHAT I HAVE DONE IS NOT ENOUGH IN THIS HOUR OF PERIL! IF THERE WERE ONLY SOMETHING I COULD DO TO HELP...

THE CHILDREN WENT TO BED AT DARK, SLEEPING RESTLESSLY TO THE SOUND OF THE GUNS... PAPA SAT ON THE STAIR, STARING SIGHTLESSLY AND THINKING...

IT WAS AN HOUR BEFORE DAWN, WHEN THE OLD MAN STIRRED... HE REACHED OUT, MOVING HIS CANE EXCITEDLY...

MARIE, WAKE UP! HURRY, CHILD!

WHAT IS IT, PAPA?

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE...

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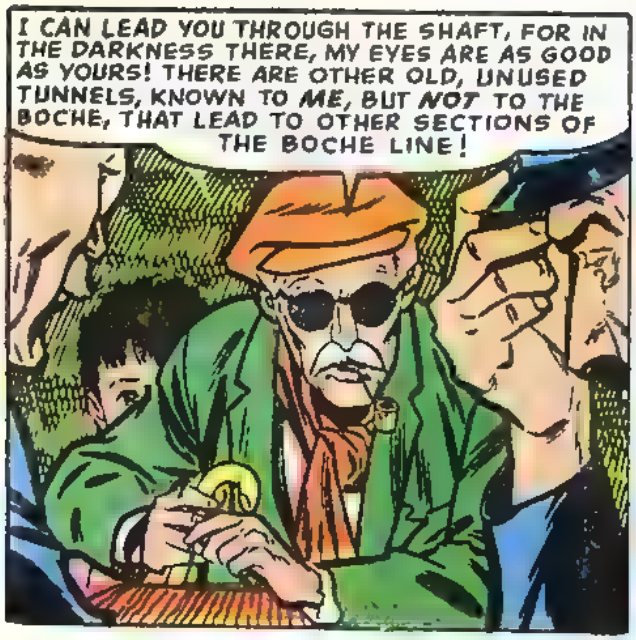
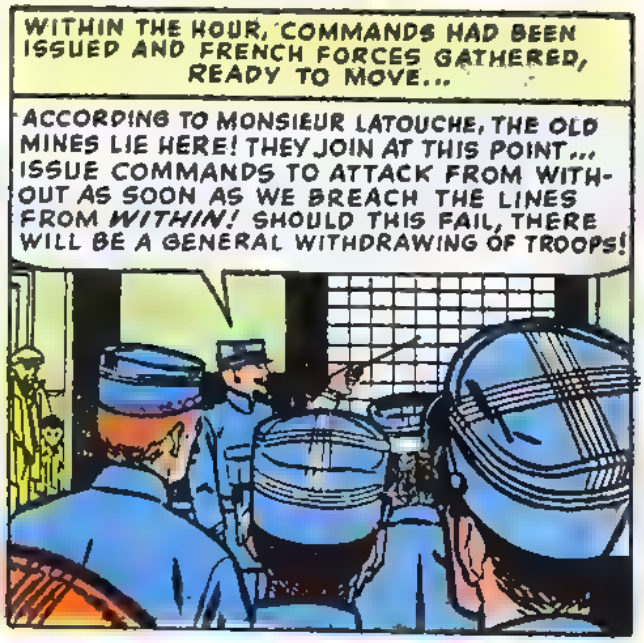
(Orders outside U.S.A. add an additional 35¢ to your purchase.)

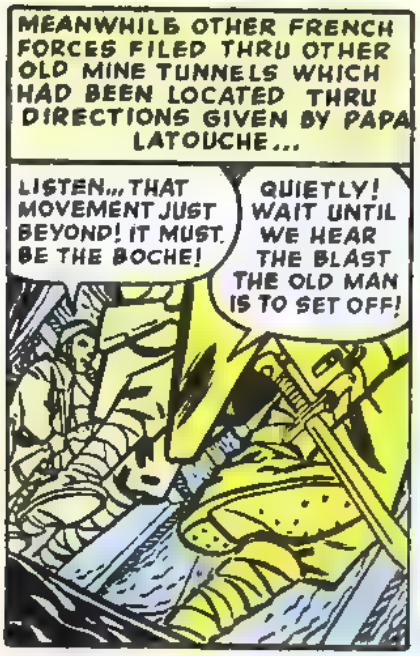
YOU MUST TAKE ME TO THE HEADQUARTERS TO THE GALLANT OFFICERS OF OUR ARMY, AT ONCE!
PAPA, BE CALM! IT IS USELESS! THEY WOULD NOT SEE YOU! YOU CANNOT HELP THEM!
DO AS I SAY! TAKE ME TO THE COMMANDANT! I CAN TELL HIM HOW TO PIERCE THE BOCHE LINE!
I WILL TAKE YOU, PAPA! I BELIEVE IN YOU!
PIERRE, COME BACK! PAPA HAS BEEN BROODING ON THIS! HE DOES NOT KNOW WHAT HE IS SAYING!
OUT OF THE WAY, DAUGHTERS! LEAD ON, PIERRE!
THE BOY LED THE BLIND MAN TOWARD THE FRENCH LINE
ARE WE SOON THERE, PIERRE?
HALT! WHO GOES THERE?
PAPA LATOUCHE EXPLAINED HIS ERRAND TO THE GUARD...
GO HOME! OUR GENERALS HAVE ENOUGH TO DO, WITHOUT LISTENING TO THE FOOLISH WHIMS OF OLD MEN!
LET THEM PASS, GUARD!
I WILL HEAR WHAT YOU HAVE TO SAY! OUR POSITION IS DESPERATE, AND NOW WE'RE CLUTCHING AT STRAWS!
I WILL TELL YOU BUT THEN YOU MUST TAKE ME TO YOUR COMMANDING OFFICER!
TEN MINUTES LATER PAPA WAS SPEAKING TO THE SECTOR COMMANDER...
I HAVE SPENT MY LIFE IN THE MINES...I KNOW WHERE THERE IS AN ABANDONED MINE SHAFT THAT CAN LEAD SOLDIERS INTO THE HEART OF THE BOCHE FORCES!
GO ON, MONSIEUR!


I CAN LEAD YOU THROUGH THE SHAFT, FOR IN THE DARKNESS THERE, MY EYES ARE AS GOOD AS YOURS! THERE ARE OTHER OLD, UNUSED TUNNELS, KNOWN TO *ME*, BUT *NOT* TO THE BOCHE, THAT LEAD TO OTHER SECTIONS OF THE BOCHE LINE!


WITHIN THE HOUR, COMMANDS HAD BEEN ISSUED AND FRENCH FORCES GATHERED, READY TO MOVE...
ACCORDING TO MONSIEUR LATOUCHE, THE OLD MINES LIE HERE! THEY JOIN AT THIS POINT... ISSUE COMMANDS TO ATTACK FROM WITHOUT AS SOON AS WE BREACH THE LINES FROM *WITHIN!* SHOULD THIS FAIL, THERE WILL BE A GENERAL WITHDRAWING OF TROOPS!

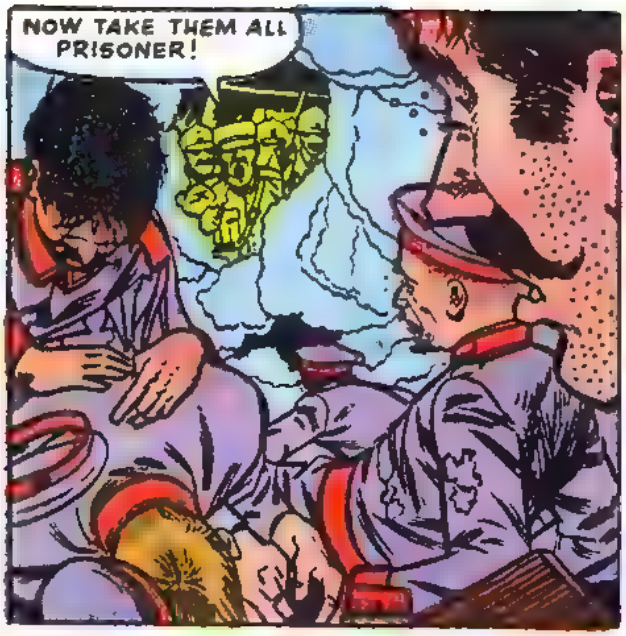
SILENTLY, A FORCE OF PICKED MEN MOVED QUIETLY THROUGH THE NIGHT, AND AT THEIR HEAD, WALKED PAPA LATOUCHE...
IF I AM CORRECT, THE OLD MINE MOUTH SHOULD BE ABOUT *HERE!*
YES, IT *IS!* WE WILL BLAST DIRECTLY INTO WHERE WE THINK THE BOCHE HAVE THEIR COMMUNICATIONS CENTER! IF THIS ONLY SUCCEEDS...

HE LED THEM THROUGH THE DARKNESS OF THE MINE TUNNEL, HIS STEP SURER THAN THEIRS IN THESE FAMILIAR SURROUNDINGS...
THE TUNNEL END SHOULD BE RIGHT IN FRONT OF US! HAND ME THE DYNAMITE... THE CHARGE MUST BE LAID JUST RIGHT, SO IT WON'T BLAST BACK AT US!


MEANWHILE OTHER FRENCH FORCES FILED THRU OTHER OLD MINE TUNNELS WHICH HAD BEEN LOCATED THRU DIRECTIONS GIVEN BY PAPA LATOUCHE...
LISTEN... THAT MOVEMENT JUST BEYOND! IT MUST BE THE BOCHE!
QUIETLY! WAIT UNTIL WE HEAR THE BLAST THE OLD MAN IS TO SET OFF!

BOOM

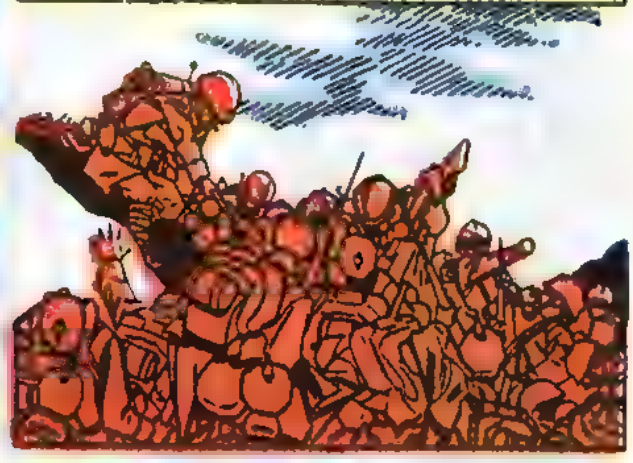
5



ALONG THE WHOLE AREA OF LA FORENTS, FRENCH FIGHTING MEN ATTACKED...AND IT SEEMED TO THE BOCHE THAT THEY CAME SUDDENLY FROM NOWHERE AND WERE AMONG THEM, SHOUTING THEIR BATTLE CRIES!

THEN, WAVE AFTER WAVE OF THE FORCES WAITING IN OUTSIDE COVER, CHARGED IN!

NO ORDERS CAME FROM THE SILENCED COMMUNICATIONS CENTER, AND THRUOUT THE BOCHE LINE, SURPRISED, BEWILDERED SOLDIERS MILLED WITHOUT DIRECTION, AND BECAME PREY TO THE DARING OF THE FRENCH FIGHTING MEN!



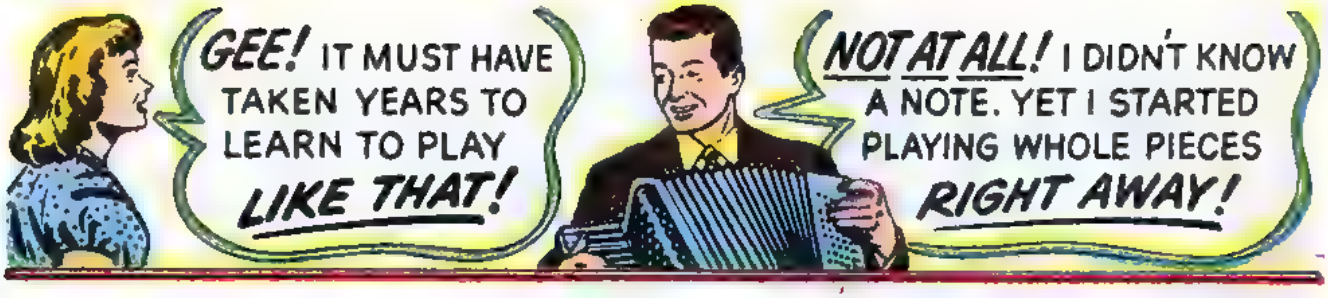
THE BOCHE LINE WAS BROKEN! THE LINES OF TRENCHES HAD BEEN PIERCED AND GERMANY'S HOLD ON FRANCE WAS FINISHED! FROM THEN ON, BOCHE TROOPS WOULD HAVE TO COME OUT AND FIGHT IN THE OPEN! FRANCE WAS SAVED!

AN OLD MINER STOOD PROUDLY BEFORE THE COMMANDERS OF THE ALLIED FORCES, TO BE HONORED BY HIS FIGHTING COUNTRYMEN AS A HERO AND A TRUE SOLDIER!

YOU HAVE EARNED FRANCE'S HIGHEST MILITARY HONOR, MONSIEUR LATOUCHE! YOUR SPIRIT SHALL GIVE COURAGE TO THE HEARTS OF ALL TRUE FRENCHMEN, UNTIL THE BOCHE ARE DRIVEN FROM OUR LAND! MONSIEUR, I SALUTE YOU!

THERE WERE TEARS IN HIS EYES... BUT THEY WERE TEARS OF PRIDE, FOR PAPA LATOUCHE HAD SERVED HIS COUNTRY IN HER HOUR OF NEED, AND SERVED HER WELL!

ATLAS FOR THE BEST IN WAR TALES LOOK FOR THE ATLAS SEAL ON THE COVER! ATLAS


GEE! IT MUST HAVE TAKEN YEARS TO LEARN TO PLAY LIKE THAT!
NOT AT ALL! I DIDN'T KNOW A NOTE. YET I STARTED PLAYING WHOLE PIECES RIGHT AWAY!

Wonderful, Easy Way to Learn Enables You To

PLAY REAL MUSIC

Almost Overnight!

EVEN IF YOU DON'T KNOW A SINGLE NOTE OF MUSIC NOW!

Yes, it's TRUE! In just a few weeks, you can be playing REAL MUSIC on *your* favorite instrument. Not by just a "trick" method that merely *seems* to teach you music. But really *reading* and *playing* actual sheet music—so easily and confidently that your friends will suspect that you've actually "known how" for years!

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Who Never Thought They Could!

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"In a few weeks I could play several pieces. Everyone was astonished and so-called friends who had had lessons for years and whom it took 6 months to a year to play simple pieces. *Mrs J. P. Perry, Princeton, W. Va.*

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THE SHOT

HIRAM JEDBY poked his head out from behind the barn, pausing in his stride toward the milking stalls. From down the road he heard the sound of hoofs. Nearer and nearer they drew, now falling as the rider and his horse dropped with the narrow road, now rising as they topped a slope. Jedby's brow wrinkled with puzzlement for only a moment, then he realized what the quick-thudding sound must mean.

A gleam of light shone suddenly through the trees. Jedby dropped the milking pail and ran toward the road. He had time only to see the rider dash past at breakneck speed, a circle of light whirling around his head. he heard a shout; then the rider was gone.

They were coming, Jedby knew now. He glanced back toward the barns and shrugged. The job could be done by his two sturdy boys and his wife. He had never fought, though he knew well the handling of a gun. Unconsciously, perhaps, as he stood there in the last few moments of the long peace, Hiram Jedby's shoulders straightened and his hand brushed his damp forehead with what was almost a military salute.

War had come.

He acquainted his wife, Sarah, with the news.

"They're after the guns and powder?" she asked, putting down the supper plates.

He nodded grimly.

"They won't get them," he said. "When the boys come in from berrying, have them milk the cows." He went for his gun that rested, barrel up, in a corner of the kitchen.

"Hiram!" Her voice was sharp, strident.

"Well, Sarah?" he asked, putting on his hat.

"You'll be only an undisciplined mob against armed soldiers!" she cried.

"An undisciplined mob," he muttered, and a kind of light came into his eyes. "Yes, maybe. Maybe that's *why* we can win."

"Win?" she asked. "Hiram, don't go."

His voice was strong and steady.

"We'll come back," he said confidently. "We'll all come back!"

"But supper . . ."

"There's a lot of suppers that won't be eaten, tonight," he said, smiling and kissed her. Then he was gone.

He walked down the path to the road. The last of the twilight had faded over, and over the brow of the nearest hill came his two boys carrying buckets of berries. He glanced at them only once, waved a good-bye he knew they couldn't see and turned left down the road. Minutes later he met more men coming from farms and joined them on the way to the meeting house.

An air of great excitement prevailed inside, as armed men shuffled to their seats on the benches. A bearded man stood behind the lectern, waiting for the hubbub to die down. When all was quiet he raised a hand and led them in prayer.

At the end he launched immediately into speech.

"It's come," he said simply. "We know what they want . . . whatever guns and powder we've got, and the whole supply of munitions of war in the armory." He glanced around the hall. "If they capture the war stores we're lost and everything is lost."

A man in the front row of benches rose.

"They're soldiers," he said. "Now *we* have to be soldiers. The trouble is, we've never trained for battle. Maybe we ought to spend the rest of the night training, learning . . . in what few hours we have left . . . to march."

There was a stir of uncertainty. Then Hiram Jedby took the floor.

"There's a war starting," he said. "We have no army to fight now. Soon we'll have one. But . . ." He paused for a moment and then addressed his words to the men in the front row. "What good is learning to march and counter-march going to do against massed ranks of armed men? We're all crack shots. Our best bet is to hide behind trees and fight from cover."

"You'd make cowards of us?" the man addressed asked.

"I'd ask brave men to live, so they can fight another day,"

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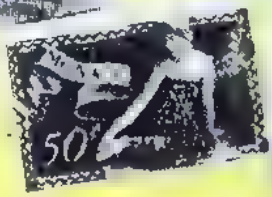

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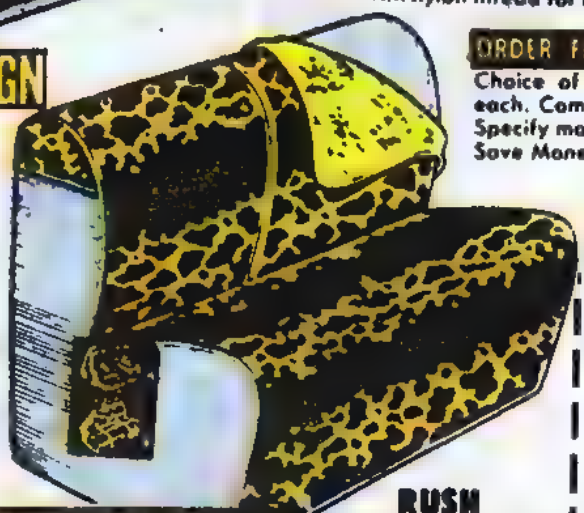

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EVERY WAR, EVERY BATTLE IS A SERIES OF EVENTS THAT FOLLOW ONE ANOTHER LIKE THE INEVITABLE TIDES! THERE IS NO HALTING THEM, NO TURNING THEM FROM THE COURSE... NOT UNTIL...

THE LAST COMMAND

IF I CAN JUST KEEP THE DRUMS ROLLING..KEEP THE MEN ENCOURAGED! I WISH THERE WERE MORE I COULD DO...BUT I'M JUST A MERE DRUMMER BOY.. AND NOT A SOLDIER FIGHTING FOR HIS MAJESTY!

"WE WERE SUCH A GREAT ARMY ONLY A LITTLE WHILE AGO! VICTORY SEEMED TO BE OURS FOR THE TAKING AND NOW WASHINGTON HAS US TRAPPED HERE IN YORKTOWN, AND WE'RE CRUMBLING BEFORE HIS CANNONADING! AND ALL I CAN DO TO HELP IS BEAT A LITTLE DRUM!"
PETER! RALLY THE MEN TO THE DEFENSE OF THE NORTH WALL! HURRY, LAD!
YES, SIR!

"THIS IS A GREAT WAR AND AN IMPORTANT BATTLE, BUT WHERE DO I FIT INTO ALL THIS? IF I WERE ONLY A LITTLE OLDER, IF I WERE ONLY A SOLDIER ..SO THAT I COULD HELP..."

COME ON, MEN! IF THAT BOY CAN STAND THERE IN THE MIDST OF THAT FURY, SO CAN WE!

THERE ARE THE REALLY IMPORTANT ONES...THE OFFICERS! THEY PLAN EVERY MOVE...EVERY TACTIC! ALL I DO IS BEAT A DRUM!

DRUMMER BOY! SOUND THE PARLEY!

YES, SIR!

"THE PARLEY! THAT'S THE CALL TO CONFERENCE BETWEEN BOTH SIDES! AT LAST I CAN DO SOMETHING TO STOP THE DISASTER!"

"I HOPE THEY SEE ME AND HEAR ME IN TIME!"

"THEY'LL NEVER NOTICE ME IN ALL THIS FIRING! I'LL FAIL... BUT STILL I CANNOT QUIT! I MUST KEEP MY POSITION!"

"THE FIRING'S STOPPED! THEY'VE SEEN ME! AND HERE COMES AN AMERICAN OFFICER TO MEET ONE OF OURS! I'VE DONE IT! I'VE HELPED!"

I AM THE DUC DE LAUSUN! I SHALL HAVE TO BLINDFOLD YOU WITH THIS BEFORE I CAN LEAD YOU TO THE CAMP OF GENERAL WASHINGTON!
I AM AT YOUR SERVICE, SIR!

THEY ARE TALKING IT OVER NOW! WILL THE BATTLE END? I HOPE SO! THIS DISASTER IS TOO MUCH! WE CAN'T TAKE MUCH MORE OF THIS!

HERE HE COMES!
IF WASHINGTON HAS ONLY AGREED TO OUR TERMS...

GENERAL WASHINGTON HAS REFUSED YOUR REQUEST FOR A SUSPENSION OF HOSTILITIES TO DISCUSS TERMS, LORD CORNWALLIS! HE WANTS ONLY UNCONDITIONAL SURRENDER! HE WILL NOT DISCUSS ANYTHING EXCEPT WITH CANNON!

"NOW WHERE DO I FIT INTO THE SCHEME OF THINGS? WITH ALL THESE GREAT DECISIONS AND ACTIONS, I'VE BEEN REDUCED TO NOTHING ONCE AGAIN! AND HERE COMES THE CANNONADING!"

WE'LL FIGHT! TO SURRENDER TO WASHINGTON'S TERMS NOW MEANS WE WILL HAVE LOST THE WAR! FIGHT ON!

"WE ALL WANT TO GO HOME! OUR CAUSE IS LOST AND WE ALL KNOW IT! THIS IS USELESS!"

"BUT THE DECISION CAN BE MADE BY ONLY ONE MAN... LORD CORNWALLIS!"

"ONE O'CLOCK. THE CANNONADING GROWS WORSE!"

"TWO O'CLOCK! HOW LONG CAN WE HOLD OUT AGAINST ALL THIS?"

"THREE O'CLOCK! THERE IS NO SIGN OF A LETUP BY THE AMERICANS.."

"FOUR O'CLOCK. "

DRUMMER BOY!

YES, LORD CORNWALLIS?

LISTEN, LAD! TO TAKE YOUR PLACE ON THE PARAPET NOW AND RESUME THE CALL FOR PARLEY CAN BE PERILOUS FOR YOU! THEY MAY HIT YOU BEFORE THEY SEE OR HEAR YOU! BUT IF YOU SUCCEED, THE WAR WILL BE OVER! WILL YOU TRY ONE MORE TIME, BOY?

"WILL I TRY? I WILL GLADLY SACRIFICE MYSELF IF THE OTHERS CAN BE SPARED!"

THE FIRING IS WORSE THAN EVER! THEY KNOW VICTORY IS THEIRS AND THEY MEAN TO BRING IT ABOUT!

THEY DON'T HEAR ME AND THEY'RE STILL FIRING!
IT...IT'S STOPPED...
THEY HEARD ME! THEY SAW ME! THE BATTLE'S ENDED!
THAT SHOT WAS THE LAST ONE OF THE WAR! IT CAME CLOSE...BUT NOT CLOSE ENOUGH! I WAS ABLE TO DO SOMETHING TO HELP, EVEN THOUGH IT WAS ONLY A LITTLE...
HUH? WHAT'S THIS?
WE SALUTE YOU, DRUMMER BOY!
THE WAR HAS ENDED! WE WILL ACCEPT WASHINGTON'S TERMS! BUT IN THIS, THE LAST MOMENT OF THE WAR, YOU WERE THE MOST IMPORTANT OF ALL THE MEN IN MY RANKS! WE SALUTE YOU!

AND SO, FOR A FEW HOURS, WE HAVE LOOKED INTO THE MIND AND HEART OF A BRITISH DRUMMER BOY WHO, WITH DEFEAT, ACHIEVED A CERTAIN VICTORY!

ATLAS FOR THE BEST IN WAR TALES LOOK FOR THE ATLAS SEAL ON THE COVER! ATLAS

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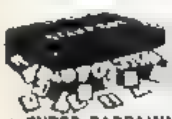

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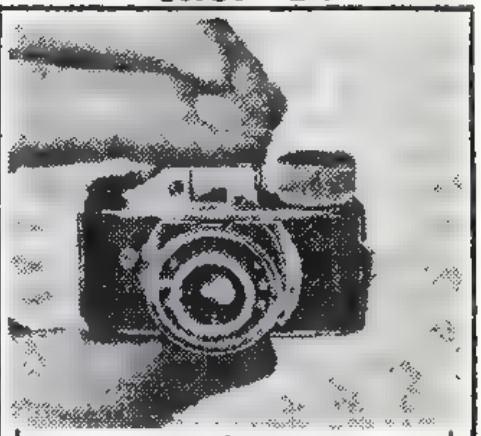

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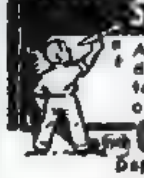

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Jedby replied. "Don't you see, we have two jobs to do. The first is to stop the enemy from taking our war stores. The second is to give time for the rest of the countryside to gather. It would be madness to allow our forces to be lessened in open battle. We have no cannon, only rifles."

There was a murmur of approbation. The man in the front row hesitated, then nodded.

"All right," he said. "It is the sense of the meeting that we follow your plan, but the responsibility for failure rests upon your head, Jedby."

Hiram Jedby said nothing, only muttered a reverent prayer.

The bearded man behind the lectern issued orders. They were to march down the main road to the stream and disperse into the woods on both sides of the bridge. Messengers were sent off to run to villages off the road, villages that had not yet had the chance to be warned.

Then the armed men left the meeting house.

Hiram Jedby and Walt Grantham . . . the one who had opposed Jedby's policy . . . walked along in the same group, through the darkness. Jedby could feel the tension grow as every moment passed. They went past the old church with its white-painted steeple and then at the head of the road, the various groups dispersed to their appointed places. Sentries stood, at length, outside large clumps of trees, behind which the concealed men lay, sleeping by turns.

By dawn the messengers returned with more men from the villages to the north and south. The men joined those already in hiding. Scouts who had been sent out by the bearded leader during the night straggled back to report that the enemy was marching up the road only ten miles away, in full battle array, drums and fifes playing, and shouting loudly they would have the stores from the armory before nightfall.

A close watch was kept upon the road leading to the bridge.

Near nine o'clock the last scouts came in. The enemy had received even more reinforcements along their line of supply and communication, and from garrisons and guard - points along the main road.

It was nearing noon when the sound of drums was heard, and then the high, piercing notes of fifes.

As he crouched behind a tree, near Hiram Jedby, Walt Grant-

ham clutched his rifle tighter.

"Aye, they're coming," he said. "What can we do, against trained soldiers?"

Jedby glanced at him sharply.

"We can defeat them," he said, and stood up. "'Tis time, Grantham, for here they come!"

A calm silence, broken only by music and the tramp of the approaching troops pervaded the woods. Heads peeped out as the first of the ranks came marching over the brow of the hill and started down toward the bridge, led by a Colonel on horseback.

"They do not know we are here," Jedby said triumphantly.

A rifle cracked. Instantly the armed troops stiffened, rifles snapping down into firing position. The Colonel raised his sword and rose stiff-legged in his stirrups in the saddle.

"Advance and fire on the rebels!" he shouted.

Firing wildly at half-seen figures in the foliage, the troops ran forward at the double, still in perfect formation. The first of them reached the bridge, set foot upon it with triumphant shouts.

Then, all along the line of march broke blast after blast of rifle fire. From the silent forest erupted a hurricane of steel and powder. For only a moment the proud, haughty British troops from Boston stood firm and then their ranks broke. In full retreat they turned in a wild route and swept back along the road away from Lexington, harried on all sides even as they ran.

"You were right!" Walt Grantham shouted to Hiram Jedby as both men hurtled onto the bridge, joining the pursuit. "Our attack from cover has set them on the run!"

"Aye," Hiram replied humbly. And then his eyes flashed as he glanced at the bright waters of the stream. "'Tis a place history will never forget!"

Shots died away in the distance as the farmers slipped through the trees on both sides of the road after the redcoats. Beneath the bridge the stream rippled on, destined, one day, to be celebrated as the place where freedom was born and tyranny trembled . . .

". . . By the rude bridge that arched the flood,

Their flag to April's breeze unfurled,

Here once the embattled farmers stood

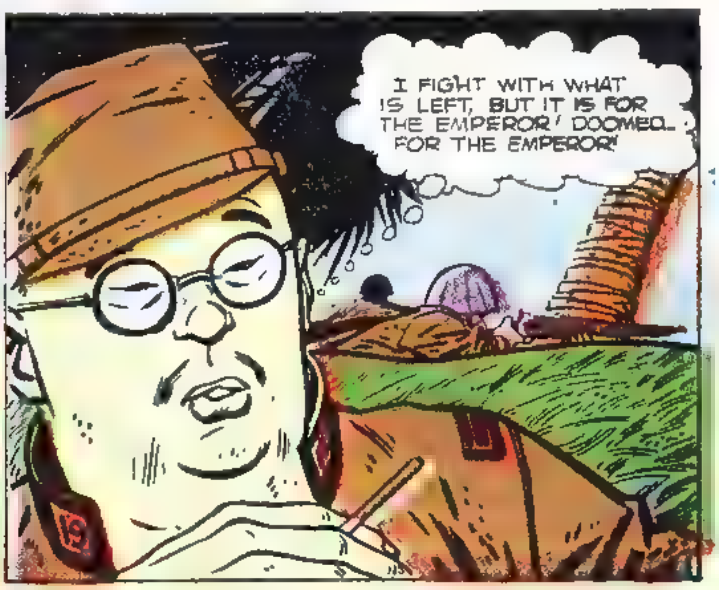
And fired the shot heard round the world!"

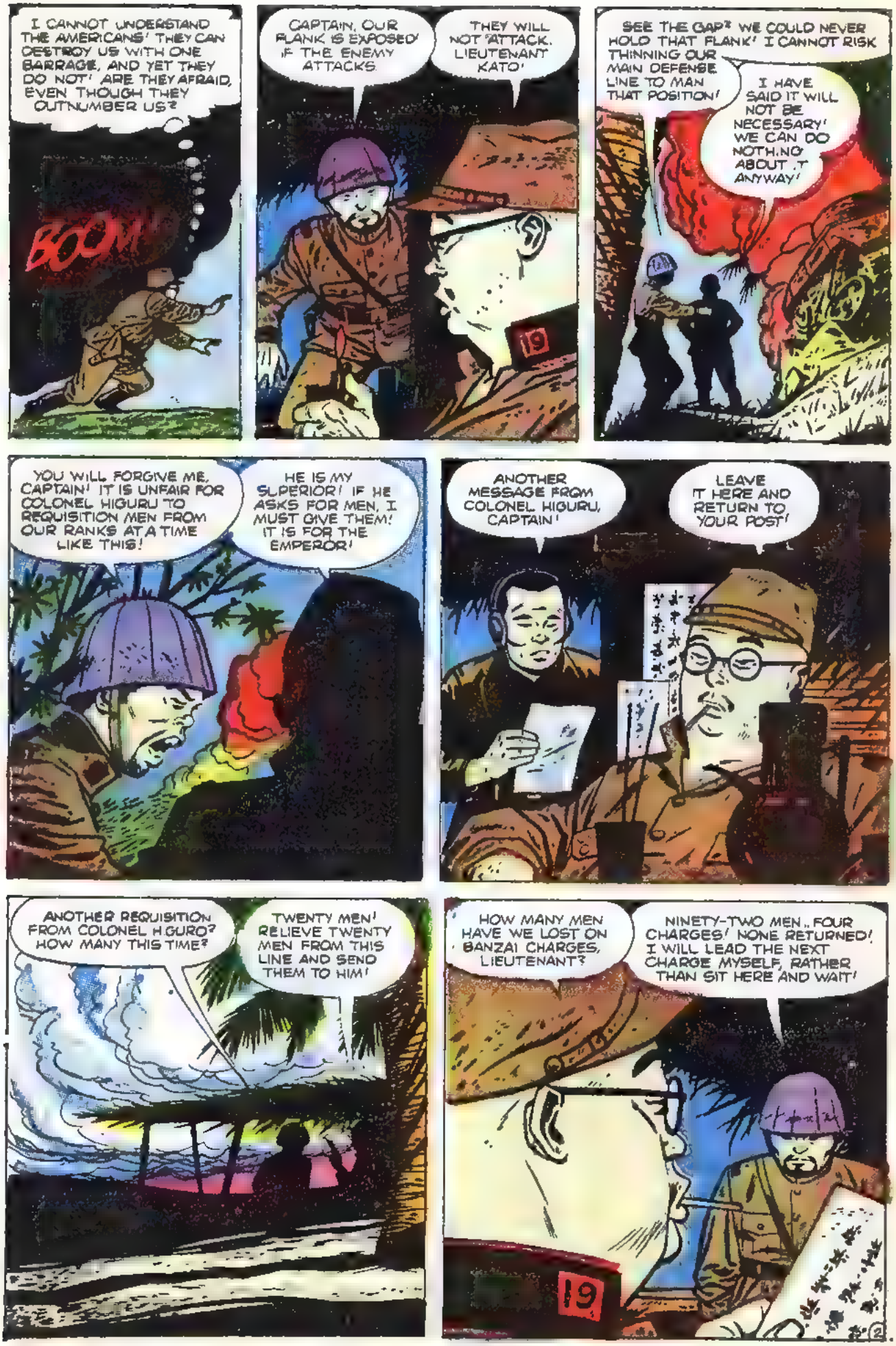
THE END G-908

BANZAI!
CAPTAIN IMOTO HANATI, OF THE JAPANESE IMPERIAL ARMY, HAD BEEN TAUGHT TO BELIEVE THAT DYING FOR THE EMPEROR WAS THE HIGHEST FORM OF GLORY ONE COULD ACHIEVE! HE BELIEVED THIS FERVENTLY, EVEN NOW, WHILE HIS COMPANY WAS TRAPPED ON NEW GUINEA!
A DRAMATIC BATTLEFRONT INCIDENT OF WORLD WAR II!

CAPTAIN HANATI CHECKED HIS POSITIONS FOR THE TENTH TIME..

FROM ONE END OF THE DEEPLY-DUG TRENCHES TO THE OTHER HE WENT, STILL MUSING ON THE THOUGHTS OF HIS MEN.




I CANNOT UNDERSTAND THE AMERICANS! THEY CAN DESTROY US WITH ONE BARRAGE, AND YET THEY DO NOT! ARE THEY AFRAID, EVEN THOUGH THEY OUTNUMBER US?
BOOM!
CAPTAIN, OUR FLANK IS EXPOSED! IF THE ENEMY ATTACKS.
THEY WILL NOT ATTACK, LIEUTENANT KATO!
19
SEE THE GAP? WE COULD NEVER HOLD THAT FLANK! I CANNOT RISK THINNING OUR MAIN DEFENSE LINE TO MAN THAT POSITION!
I HAVE SAID IT WILL NOT BE NECESSARY! WE CAN DO NOTHING ABOUT IT ANYWAY!
YOU WILL FORGIVE ME, CAPTAIN! IT IS UNFAIR FOR COLONEL HIGURU TO REQUISITION MEN FROM OUR RANKS AT A TIME LIKE THIS!
HE IS MY SUPERIOR! IF HE ASKS FOR MEN, I MUST GIVE THEM! IT IS FOR THE EMPEROR!
ANOTHER MESSAGE FROM COLONEL HIGURU, CAPTAIN!
LEAVE IT HERE AND RETURN TO YOUR POST!
ANOTHER REQUISITION FROM COLONEL HIGURO? HOW MANY THIS TIME?
TWENTY MEN! RELIEVE TWENTY MEN FROM THIS LINE AND SEND THEM TO HIM!
HOW MANY MEN HAVE WE LOST ON BANZAI CHARGES, LIEUTENANT?
NINETY-TWO MEN.. FOUR CHARGES! NONE RETURNED! I WILL LEAD THE NEXT CHARGE MYSELF, RATHER THAN SIT HERE AND WAIT!
19
2

MEANWHILE, THE JAPANESE SOLDIERS BEGAN TO GRUMBLE
DID YOU SEE WHAT HAPPENED? TWENTY MORE MEN SENT TO THE NEIGHBORING BATTALION!
WHAT DIFFERENCE? THEY DIE THERE THEY DIE HERE!
WELL, THEY'RE GONE! DO YOU KNOW WHAT WE HAVE LEFT? SIXTY-EIGHT MEN WHO WOULD DIE FOR THE EMPEROR IF THEY THOUGHT IT WOULD HELP!
SIT DOWN HERE, LIEUTENANT KATO!
I MUST DISCIPLINE YOU! YOUR FAITH IN THE EMPEROR IS WANING! YOU HAVE DOUBTS AND A GOOD JAPANESE OFFICER MUST HAVE NONE!
YES, I HAVE DOUBTS! YOU WOULD HAVE DOUBTS, TOO! IN MANY THINGS THEY HAVE LIED TO US!
FOR LESS THAN THAT, YOU WOULD DIE, KATO! YOU DARE EVEN IMPLY THAT I COULD DOUBT? WHAT LIES DO YOU TALK ABOUT?
I KNOW THEY LIED! THEY SAID THE AMERICANS WOULD KILL THOSE WHO SURRENDERED_THOSE WHO WERE WOUNDED! THEY ARE LIES!
HOW DO YOU KNOW?
BECAUSE I SAW WITH MY EYES, ON GUADALCANAL! ON IWO JIMA! I SAW THE AMERICANS TREAT WOUNDED JAPANESE SOLDIERS! I SAW THEM FEED PRISONERS!
YOU SAW THAT? YOU SPEAK THE TRUTH?
CAPTAIN IMOTO HANATI WALKED OUTSIDE WHERE HIS MEN WERE FIGHTING! FOR THE FIRST TIME, A BIT OF DOUBT FILTERED THROUGH HIS MIND...
IS IT POSSIBLE? IF THEY LIED ABOUT THAT, THEY CAN LIE ABOUT OTHER THINGS! DO MY MEN FIGHT BETTER BECAUSE THEY ARE LIED TO?
13

I CAN TELL YOU ONE *OTHER* THING I BELIEVE! I THINK IT IS BETTER TO LIVE THAN TO DIE!
RETURN TO THE LINE! FORM A BANZAI UNIT OF HALF THE MEN! THEY ARE TO CHARGE THE ENEMY LINES WITHIN FIVE MINUTES! *GO!* LEAD THEM YOURSELF!

CAPTAIN HANATI, WAITED AND WATCHED! HE SAW THE MEN LEAP FROM THEIR POSITIONS AND MOVE FORWARD

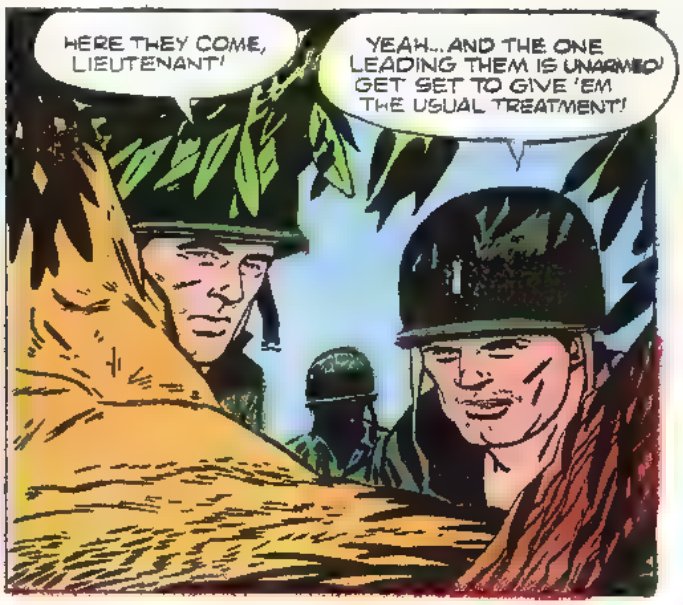
A GREAT BITTERNESS AND FRUSTRATION WELLED UP IN CAPTAIN HANATI'S HEART, AS HE READ

HE WENT FROM ONE POSITION TO ANOTHER, CALLING THEM ALL.

YOU ARE TO TAKE ALL THE EQUIPMENT YOU CAN CARRY AND REPORT AT ONCE TO COLONEL HIGURU'S POSITIONS ON OUR FLANK! CORPORAL SHIMU WILL LEAD YOU!

MEANWHILE, LIEUTENANT KATO'S BANZAI UNIT RAN AND STUMBLED TOWARD THE AMERICAN LINES..

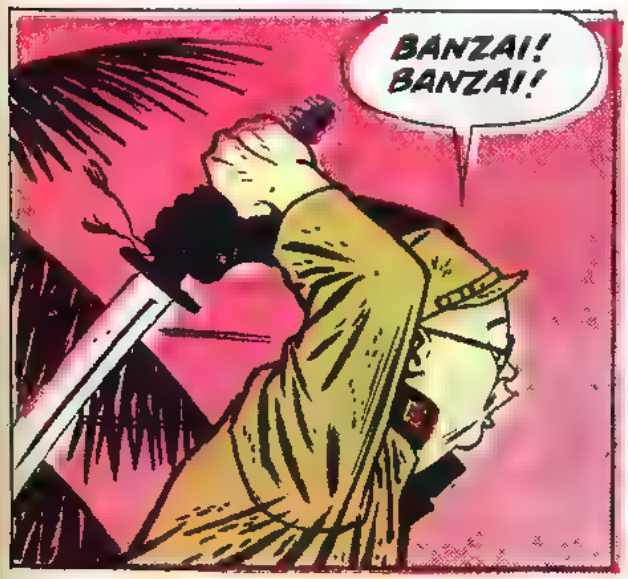
FOR THE YANK TROOPS, A FAMILIAR AND PUZZLING SIGHT WAS BEING REPORTED..



BACK AT THE JAP POSITIONS, CAPTAIN HANATI SURVEYED HIS DESERTED SECTOR

CAPTAIN HANATI MADE UP HIS MIND! HE STRIPPED HIMSELF OF SIDE ARMS AND CLUTCHED ONLY HIS SAMURAI SWORD.

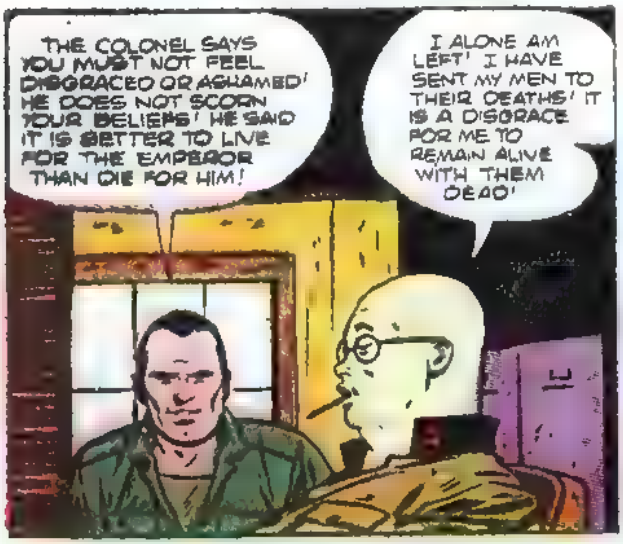
HE BEGAN TO RUN TOWARD THE ENEMY LINES, NOT THINKING OF THE BULLETS OR THE SHELLS CRASHING AROUND HIM



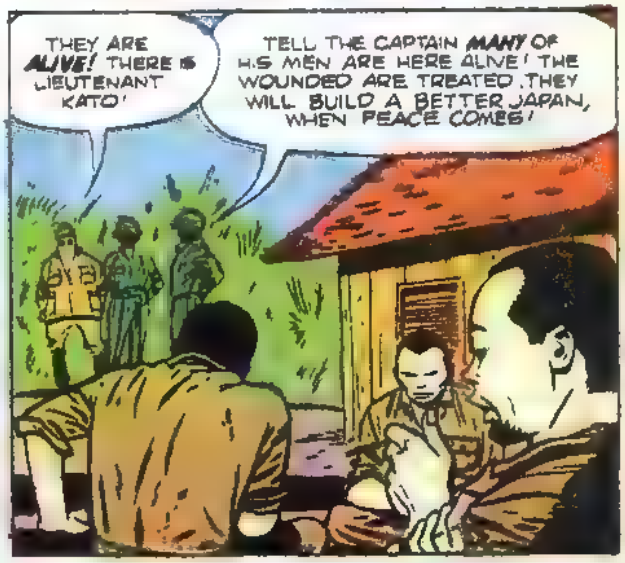
CAPTAIN HANATI SLOWED TO A WALK! HE HOPED FOR A QUICK END, BUT IT DID NOT COME!

IT WAS LIKE A DREAM! ROUGH HANDS SUDDENLY REACHED OUT AND SEIZED HIM.

CAPTAIN HANATI LISTENED TO THE WORDS OF THE AMERICAN COLONEL'S INTERPRETER LIKE A MAN IN A DREAM.


THE COLONEL SAYS YOU MUST NOT FEEL DISGRACED OR ASHAMED! HE DOES NOT SCORN YOUR BELIEFS! HE SAID IT IS BETTER TO LIVE FOR THE EMPEROR THAN DIE FOR HIM!
I ALONE AM LEFT! I HAVE SENT MY MEN TO THEIR DEATHS! IT IS A DISGRACE FOR ME TO REMAIN ALIVE WITH THEM DEAD!

THEY TOOK CAPTAIN HANATI OUTSIDE. THERE HIS EYES SAW WHAT HE HAD REFUSED TO BELIEVE..


THEY ARE ALIVE! THERE IS LIEUTENANT KATO!
TELL THE CAPTAIN MANY OF HIS MEN ARE HERE ALIVE! THE WOUNDED ARE TREATED. THEY WILL BUILD A BETTER JAPAN, WHEN PEACE COMES!

YOU REALLY SWUNG IT, COLONEL! HOW DID YOU FIGURE THEM OUT?
BY INTERROGATING SOME OF THE FIRST PRISONERS! I KNEW THEY WERE DISSATISFIED! THEY WERE BEGINNING TO DOUBT THEIR OFFICERS!

A FIGHTING MAN CAN'T HAVE DOUBTS! HE MUST KNOW! CAPTAIN HANATI'S DOUBTS FOLLOWED HIS MEN'S! HE JUST HAD TO BE CONVINCED HE WAS BETTER OFF AS A LIVE PRISONER OF WAR, THAN DEAD!
WELL HE'S CONVINCED NOW!

ATLAS FOR THE BEST IN WAR TALES LOOK FOR THE ATLAS SEAL ON THE COVER! ATLAS

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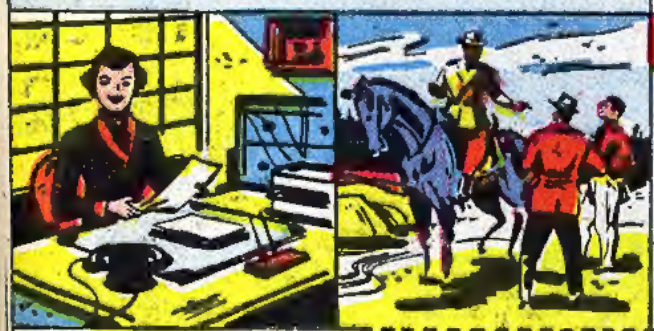

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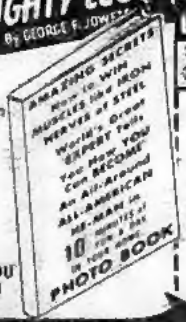
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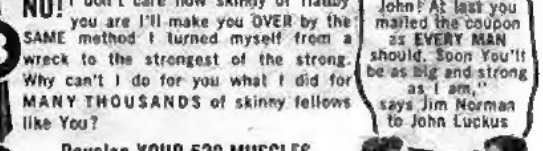

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